

EPA Brownfields Supplemental Assistance

Stockton, CA

Outreach and Special Projects Staff (5105)

Quick Reference Fact Sheet

EPA's Brownfields Economic Redevelopment Initiative is designed to empower states, communities, and other stakeholders in economic redevelopment to work together in a timely manner to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield is a site, or portion thereof, that has actual or perceived contamination and an active potential for redevelopment or reuse. EPA is funding: assessment demonstration pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to assess brownfields sites and to test cleanup and redevelopment models; job training pilot programs (each funded up to \$200,000 over two years), to provide training for residents of communities affected by brownfields to facilitate cleanup of brownfields sites and prepare trainees for future employment in the environmental field; and, cleanup revolving loan fund programs (each funded up to \$500,000 over five years) to capitalize loan funds to make loans for the environmental cleanup of brownfields. These pilot programs are intended to provide EPA, states, tribes, municipalities, and communities with useful information and strategies as they continue to seek new methods to promote a unified approach to site assessment, environmental cleanup, and redevelopment.

BACKGROUND

EPA awarded the City of Stockton supplemental assistance for its Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot and additional funding for assessments at brownfields properties and to be used for greenspace purposes. Many old shipyards, heavy manufacturing mills, and industrial sites, along Stockton's waterfront have been abandoned, contributing to unemployment and poverty in the Pilot area. The threat of contamination and liability has inhibited reuse and redevelopment at these sites, while suburban sprawl has expanded. During the last 25 years, the city's redevelopment agency has been acquiring many of the abandoned properties in the waterfront area, nearly all of which are potentially contaminated. The city is particularly concerned with the properties in the state-designated Enterprise Zone, where contamination could present an additional obstacle to economic revitalization.

Stockton received an EPA Brownfields Assessment Demonstration Pilot grant in 1996. Through this grant, many environmental hurdles and barriers have been removed and significant redevelopment is becoming a reality. However, much work remains to be done, and EPA is providing Stockton with supplemental assistance to its original Brownfields

PILOT SNAPSHOT



Stockton, California

Date of Announcement:
March 2000

Amount: \$150,000
Greenspace: \$50,000

Profile: The Pilot will support ongoing efforts to revitalize Stockton's waterfront district, including a greenspace creation element.

Contacts:

City of Stockton
Department of Housing and
Urban Development
(209) 937-8811

Regional Brownfields Team
U.S. EPA - Region 9
(415) 744-2237

Visit the EPA Region 9 Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/region09/waste/brown/index.html>

For further information, including specific Pilot contacts, additional Pilot information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at:
<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/>

Pilot in order to maintain revitalization momentum.

OBJECTIVES AND PLANNED ACTIVITIES

The focus of Stockton's brownfields effort is to encourage economic revitalization of the urban waterfront area. Redevelopment of the waterfront will promote productive land use, reduce air and water pollution associated with urban sprawl, and expand job opportunities in locations accessible to low-income populations. To satisfy these objectives, the supplemental assistance to the pilot will support additional site assessments of both publicly and privately owned waterfront properties. This will allow the City of Stockton to fill in the gaps between major waterfront redevelopment projects and maintain revitalization momentum.

In addition, Stockton has been selected by EPA to receive assistance for greenspace activities. The Pilot will facilitate the completion of the waterfront promenade and the Weber Point property, both critical to the recreational, and commercial success of the adjacent waterfront development.

To accomplish these objectives, the Pilot plans to:

- Conduct additional environmental assessments on targeted waterfront properties;
- Revise the outreach strategy and implement the stakeholder involvement plan for the targeted area; and
- Conduct assessments and develop cleanup and reuse plans for the two areas targeted for greenspace purposes.

The cooperative agreement for this Pilot has not yet been negotiated; therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.